

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BREMEN 00594 291605Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 /072 W  
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R 281045Z SEP 78  
FM AMCONSUL BREMEN  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2744  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

UNCLAS BREMEN 594

DEPT FOR EUR/CE AND INR/REU

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, GW  
SUBJECT: SCHERF ELECTED NEW SENATOR FOR FINANCE IN BREMEN

REF: BREMEN 548 AND 567

1. AN EXTRAORDINARY LAND CONVENTION OF THE BREMEN SPD ON SEPTEMBER 25, AS ANTICIPATED, NOMINATED DR. HENNING SCHERF (39), A LEADER OF ITS LEFTIST WING, AS CANDIDATE FOR SENATOR OF FINANCE. SCHERF RECEIVED AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF 161 TO 21 VOTES (8 ABSTENTIONS). FOLLOWING HIS NOMINATION BY THE CONVENTION, THE BUERGERSCHAFT, ON SEPT 27, VOTED SCHERF INTO OFFICE, TO SUCCEED KARL-HEINZ JANTZEN, BY THE SOLID BLOC OF THE 52 SPD PARTY VOTES. THE CDU AND FDP CAST THEIR VOTES UNIFORMLY IN OPPOSITION, CRITICIZING SCHERF AS THE MAIN SPONSOR, IN HIS FORMER ROLE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BUERGERSCHAFT FINANCE COMMITTEE, OF THE FAR-REACHING DEFICIT-  
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SPENDING POLICY OF LAND BREMEN. BUERGERMEISTER KOSCHNICK, WHILE CONCEDING THAT THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF LAND BREMEN WAS NOT AT ITS BEST, DEFENDED THE SENAT'S FINANCE POLICY, SINCE, HE ASSERTED, IT CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMBATTING OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN BREMEN.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SCHERF'S NOMINATION BY THE SPD CON-

VENTION WAS GENERALLY EXPECTED, EVEN HIS LEFTIST POLITICAL FRIENDS WERE SURPRISED BY THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF VOTES HE RECEIVED. THE REAL TEST OF STRENGTH OF THE PARTY'S TWO WINGS WILL COME, HOWEVER, ON NOVEMBER 27, WHEN THE BREMEN SPD IS SCHEDULED TO ELECT ITS NEW LAND CHAIRMAN TO SUCCEED SCHERF. FOR THE MOMENT THE RACE IS STILL OPEN AND THE CONTEST IS BETWEEN THE LEFTIST KONRAD KUNICK AND THE MODERATE HORST VON HASSEL. THE LATTER IS SAID TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF BUERGER-MEISTER KOSCHNICK.

3. A BIOGRAPHIC SUPPLEMENT ON SCHERF WILL FOLLOW.  
SCHIFFMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FINANCE, ELECTIONS, COMMITTEES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** SCHERF ELECTED NEW SENATOR FOR FINANCE IN BREMEN  
**TAGS:** PINT, GE, (SCHERF, HENNING)  
**To:** BONN  
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